



**COMMANDING OFFICER'S
2D ASSAULT AMPHIBIAN BN
STATEMENT ON
SAFETY AND FORCE PRESERVATION**



Every member of this command must strive to keep the unforgiving environment we operate in at the forefront of their mind. From our interaction with heavy equipment, ordnance, and explosives to the environment of operating on land or the open ocean – our ability to meet our mission essential tasks without loss of life or limb demands that we never compromise safety. To do our job, we cannot be risk averse – a certain amount of risk is inherent in operations and the day to day garrison routine. However, our approach to safety must manage and mitigate risk – and train our subordinates to do the same. Our challenge as leaders is to set the environment to ensure avoidable mishaps are prevented and to enable subordinates to develop their judgement, both on and off duty. This must not be an afterthought in training, combat, or while on liberty/leave. It is a shared responsibility between leader and led.

Force Preservation is an essential element of our operational readiness. Taking care of our Marines and Sailors embodies our corps values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. Our collective readiness requires that every member of this battalion take those preventative actions necessary to protect the unit and its Marines and Sailors 24 hours a day. There is no single solution for force preservation. Over the years the battalion has grown to include external duty experts such as the Marine and Family Life Counselors to assist those Marines/Sailors in need. Leaders must employ the full range of tools to continue to educate your Marines and Sailors to mitigate risk. Risk mitigation is one of the best means available as we fight to eliminate senseless and needless loss of life and injury, both on duty and on liberty.

Risk management and mitigation will be an integrate part of the planning and execution of all activities – both operation and off-duty; the judgement executed in combat by you and your subordinates is developed through the inherent daily activities in garrison. Set the environment to avoid mishaps and allow your subordinates to develop their judgement. Mishaps are preventable and I need each member of this command engaged in preserving the force so that we will be ready when called upon.

Semper Fidellis

D. W. BAAS